

November 2023

Dear Parent/Carer

Year 10 Curriculum Enrichment Days – 24 January/25 January 2024

We have now finalised all of the arrangements for the two Curriculum Enrichment days on Wednesday 24 January and Thursday 25 January 2024, details of which are attached. We have endeavoured to provide a range of activities for all students and have subsidised a number of these activities to try to keep costs to parents/carers as low as possible. These Curriculum Enrichment days offer valuable opportunities for students to experience activities not normally available in the curriculum.

We anticipate all students will take part in all activities.

In order to finance trips, we ask that parents/carers make a voluntary contribution. The school subsidises some of the costs of the enrichment activities but is finding that costs are rising. If you are able to help in the financial support of this activity, there is an option to pay an additional £5. If we do not receive enough parental donations, the trip will need to be cancelled. As the school receives a grant for students currently receiving free school meals, we do not require a contribution from these students as this can be funded from the grant; however, parental consent is still required through **Scopay**. If you have any queries on the funding of this trip, please contact the school's Finance Office.

Payment for trips can be made using the online Scopay system <https://www.scopay.com/castleschool-somerset>. If you are unable to pay online you can pay by cash/cheque (made payable to The Castle School) or by credit/debit card (either in person or over the phone) but you still need to login to Scopay to give consent and confirm that you are satisfied with the arrangements in this letter. If you do not wish your child to participate you will need to login and give a reason why. We value your feedback and will take this into consideration in our future planning. The deadline for payment/consent is **Friday 8 December**. You can pay in instalments if it's easier to spread the cost over the next month.

Please ensure that we have your up to date emergency contact details and any relevant medical information for your child, as this information is taken from our school database.

School trips are covered by the Trust insurance policy. Please be aware that:

- a) except for visits abroad, insurance arrangements are the same as for students in educational establishments, i.e., that the Trust can only insure against the proven negligence by the Trust and/or its employees; and
- b) the Trust is a member of the RPA (Department for Education risk protection arrangement) which provides personal accident cover (see copy of the policy on the school website for details) but you may consider taking out your own personal accident cover to supplement this if appropriate.

Please would you direct any further enquiries to the named teacher who is organising the activity.

Yours sincerely



Mr J Lamb
Headteacher

Year 10 Students

Wednesday 24 January		Thursday 25 January	
GOM Houses	RBV Houses	GOM Houses	RBV Houses
Careers: Mock interviews Work Experience PSHE: Prevent Payslips and Taxes	Bath University Trip	Bath University Trip	Careers: Mock interviews Work Experience PSHE: Prevent Payslips and Taxes

Bath University Trip

Organising teacher: Mrs P Hunt and Mrs J Corbett

Cost: £20.60

As part of their Careers Education, all of our Year 10 students have a fantastic opportunity to visit the University of Bath campus to gain an insight into higher education. This visit will include a tour, a talk and a student Q and A session.

We will be leaving school by coach at 8.00am (students need to be here at 7:50am) meeting at Taunton and Bridgwater College bus bay and aim to be back by 4:30pm. Students must be in school uniform and will need to bring a packed lunch with them (free school meal students will be provided with a packed lunch). If they suffer from travel sickness please ensure that they have taken the relevant medication and that students with asthma etc have inhalers with them (if needed).

Careers: Mock Interviews / Work Experience

Organising teacher: Mrs P Hunt / Mrs M Rolls

Mock Interviews

Students will take part in a mock interview morning on Wednesday 24 January (GOM) and Thursday 25 January (RBV). Each student will have a 10-minute interview with an employer in the main hall followed by 5-minute feedback. The purpose of the morning is to give students an opportunity to experience an interview situation. This will help to prepare them for future interviews for college, jobs, apprenticeships etc.

All students who are in school are expected to participate. Students will have completed their CV during tutor time. They need to bring their CV to their interview. The mock interviews will be held during periods 1 and 2. Employers will decide on their "successful recruit" and a "highly recommended" student. There will be a presentation in the main hall during Period 3.

Work Experience

Students will have time in the IT Suites with their tutors to:

- Search and apply for work experience placements or
- Complete a research activity on their chosen industry to prepare for a placement.

PSHE

Organising teacher: Mr M Wilkins

Students will be in tutor groups focusing the following topic:

Prevent

The learning objectives for this lesson are:

- Know that some types of behavior within relationships are criminal, including violent behavior and coercive control.
- To understand that we live in a society that celebrates diversity and difference.
- To be able to articulate what diversity is.
- To know to challenge anyone who has views which are anti-diverse.

Payslips and Taxes

- To know how to read a payslip and contributions made through taxes.
- To know how to keep personal information safe online and how to report it if something goes wrong.
- To know common types of financial exploitation.
- The differences between a credit and debit card.